

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 AID-20 AGR-20 INT-08 TRSE-00

OMB-01 XMB-07 DRC-01 RSC-01 /084 W

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R 220615Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7201

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 2835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EMIN, BEXP, SA

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS

COMMERCE FOR MEPD

BELOW ARE SEVERAL RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AREAS WHICH
ARE OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE FOR SAUDI ARABIA:

1. DESALINATION: A DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO SPLIT
SAG OFFICE OF DESALINATION AFFAIRS OFF FROM MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER AND CREATE A NEW AUTONOMOUS
AGENCY UNDER DIRECTION OF PRINCE MOHAMED BIN FAISAL.
REORGANIZATION WILL TAKE PLACE DURING COMING YEAR.
HEADQUARTERS WILL BE MOVED FROM JIDDA TO RIYADH.
EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-SIX MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN
AUTHORIZED BY SAG FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS, WHICH
ARE ALL TO BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN NEXT THREE YEARS;
JIDDA--10 MILLION GPD EXPANSION
(CONSULTANCY ALREADY AWARDED) SUBSEQUENT 20 MILLION GPD EXPANSION OF
JIDDA
PLANT. AL-KHOBAR: EXPANSION OF 15 MILLION GPD AND
100 MW POWER GENERATION. MEDINA; 20 MILLION GPD PLUS 250
MW PLANT. JUBAIL; 22.5 MILLION GPD PLUS 250 MW
PLANT. IN ADDITION A NUMBER OF SMALL (50-100 THOUSAND GPD)
PLANTS WILL BE INSTALLED AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG RED SEA
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AND GULF COASTS.

2. BRITISH FIRM SIR WILLIAM HALCROW AND ASSOCIATES
HAS BEEN AWARDED DESIGN CONTRACT FOR THE CIVILIAN PORT AT
JUBAIL, EXPECTED TO COST \$375 MILLION.

3. U.S. STEEL SUBSIDIARY USS ENGINEERS AND CONSULTANTS
HAS SIGNED CONTRACT WITH PETROMIN FOR MINERALS EXPLORATION,
PRIMARILY COPPER AT JEBAL SAID SITE, JOINING FRENCH
IN THE SEARCH FOR COMMERCIALLY EXPLOITABLE DEPOSIT.
JAPANESE SIGNED SIMILAR EXPLORATION CONTRACT FOR SECOND DEPOSIT.
ANOTHER U.S. COMPANY, UTAH INTERNATIONAL, IS ALSO
CONSIDERING ENTERING THE FIELD OF MINERAL EXPLORATION
IN THE KINGDOM.

4. MOBIL OIL HAS SIGNED CONTRACT WITH PETROMIN FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF A ONE MILLION BARREL PER YEAR LUB OIL
REFINERY AT JIDDA AT A COST OF \$37 MILLION. COMPANY
IS ALSO IN FEASIBILITY STAGE ON 500,000 BD REFINERY.
AKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DESALINATION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, CONTRACTS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JIDDA02835
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740127-0320
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740528/aaaaaxyq.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 OCT 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30-Oct-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS COMMERCE FOR MEPD
TAGS: EIND, EMIN, BEXP, SA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005